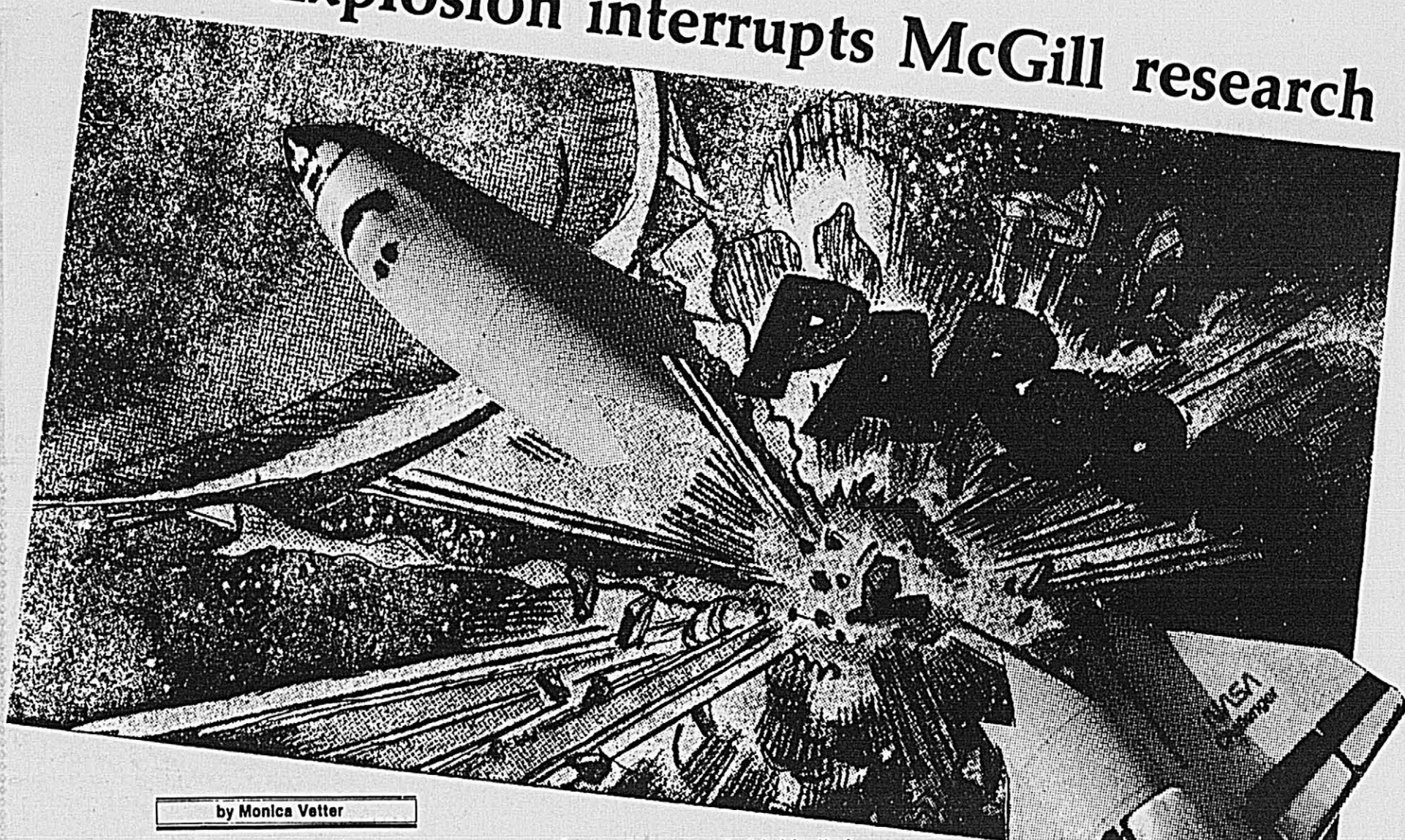


Explosion interrupts McGill research



by Monica Vetter

One moment McGill Physiology Professor Dr. Douglas Watt was discussing his involvement with NASA's Space Experiments Program. The next, he watched as the hopes for his next three years' research were engulfed in a fiery explosion, along with six of NASA's astronauts and the first civilian to attempt a trip into space.

The U.S. space shuttle Challenger had just exploded.

News of the explosion swept through McGill's Aviation Medical Research Unit as people gathered around the television in the department lounge. The seriousness of the situation was lost on no one.

"What's most tragic is that the whole crew is gone," said Dr. Watt. "There's never been anybody killed during a launch."

loose."

"It failed at the time of maximum aerodynamic stress," he added, "Anything breaking at that time would lead to catastrophic failure."

Dr. Watt seemed shaken by the event, but not overly surprised. "Most people don't realize that this is an experimental program not a routine flight. Occasionally something will go wrong...They were a team of pros who knew the risks and it caught up with them," said Watt. "It doesn't make it any less tragic for their families, but it's a very unfortunate part of the game."

"Unless there was some obvious reason for the failure, there will be no more launches for about a year."

He added, however, that there is "too much riding on these shuttles — they can't slow it down...There

to be flown was scheduled for the end of this year, but will be postponed for at least one or two years as a result of yesterday's tragedy.

Dr. Watt, part of the Canadian Life Sciences Space Research program, is responsible for developing the Canadian medical experiments, which run on some shuttle missions. These experiments are designed to study the adaptation of the human nervous system to weightlessness.

Crewmembers of Spacelab 1, in December 1983, performed Watt's experiments, marking the first time Canadian medical experiments had been flown in space. Studies were also conducted on the non-Spacelab flight, 41-G, and on Spacelab D1, which flew last October. The Canadian Spacelab studies were part of a large package of such experiment, involving researchers from over 14 countries.

Watt designs the experiments, prepares the equipment, and conducts the preliminary studies here at McGill with the assistance of a technical team from the Aerospace Medical Research Unit. When the time comes to fly the experiments on a shuttle mission, Watt conducts pre- and post-flight tests on the crew members at Cape Canaveral or Edwards Air Force Base, and during flight monitors progress from the ground. The McGill flag can occasionally be seen flapping in the wind outside of the ground facilities for vestibular research on base.

Profound changes in body function result when a person enters a gravitationless state, as in space. Body fluids, for example, no longer experience the downward force of gravity and redistribute upwards, producing a puffy-faced, thin-legged person. The cardiovascular system and the kidneys are placed under unusual stress in this situation. Our bodies have evolved to function most effectively in a 1g environment.

The nervous system also experiences disruption of sensory information when gravity is removed. Under normal circumstances you are able to detect head position and movement through the 'otolith organs,' specialized structures found in the inner ear. Signals are sent from these organs to the rest of vestibular system and are combined with other sources of sensory input. This enables the nervous system to coordinate such things as eye position with respect to the head, balance and control of body movements.

The proprioceptive system provides information about the loca-

tion of your limbs in space, based on feedback signals from the muscles. The loss of gravitational input to these systems makes interpretation of familiar body movements very difficult for the nervous system, since abnormal neural signals are produced. The nervous system must utilize other sensory information and adapt to the new situation. Something which it is often capable of doing.

Such adaptation, however, can take time. In the meantime, side-effects like poor coordination or space motion sickness can result. Space motion sickness can be a particularly serious problem during space flight, since it reduces the crews' ability to function effectively during the mission.

Dr. Watt has proposed a series of experiments which examine the limits and mechanisms of neural adaptation in the gravitationless state. Although his program has suffered a serious setback because of the shuttle explosion, the studies may ultimately shed some light on several long-standing questions about nervous system function.

"Everything we were going to do will be delayed two to three years."

It was obvious there would be no survivors. "They'll find nothing but highly oxidized fragments...lots of chunks of tile and big engine parts, but they'll find no trace of the astronauts," stated Watt.

It was far from clear what had gone wrong, but after watching the replay Watt speculated that an engine had blown at the back. "It looked like, just for a second, the fire flowed from back to front, following the normal flow of gases around the shuttle," he explained. "It certainly wasn't the solids blowing up, or the external tank pulling

will be the usual hero's funeral and a new resolution to push ahead with the programme and beat the Russians."

Dr. Watt's work has been seriously affected. "Everything we were going to do will be delayed two to three years," said Dr. Watt, "all the big scientific launches, such as the comet work and Galileo, won't go this year."

Although none of Watt's experiments were being conducted on this shuttle, an extensive program of experiments had been planned for future missions. The next study

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Classroom clash over Darwin

by Michael Sharpe

We have all heard the hackneyed truism that history repeats itself. The idea that we are all caught up in some great cycle, watching helplessly as wars, revolutions and fluctuating dress lengths sweep inexorably into history books.

Heaven knows there must be some truth to it. As a species we seem unable to learn from even our most serious blunders. Who could fail to see the monstrous destruction, misery and absurdity of a hundred year war? Perhaps it's our tendency to remember only the good times—or maybe human life is just too fleeting.

Whatever the reason, don't look now, it's happening again. North America is under attack and it's neither the Russians nor communists. It is something insidious and it comes from within. Growing from humble beginnings, it has become so widespread and taken for granted that it has not yet been recognized for the threat that it really is.

I refer to the christian fundamentalist revival in North America and, in particular, to the impact it is having on science education in schools. There are all sorts of other ways in which fundamentalists are trying to change society such as attempts to reverse abortion laws and outlaw birth control, although these are being fought in other arenas.

The fundamentalist movement or new fundamentalism as it is known, is the extreme right wing of the larger evangelical movement. Its undisputed leader, Jerry Falwell is also the founder of the Moral Majority. With the help of other personalities such as Pat Robertson, extensive television and radio networks and aggressive, doom-threatening mail soliciting, the movement has added millions to its ranks in the last two decades.

Estimates vary, but according to one source over thirty million homes are hooked up to cable 4 of the Christian Broadcasting Network alone. This station carries such shows as the PTL Club (Praise the Lord), the 700 Club and Jerry Falwell Live.

What sets fundamentalists apart from other christian demoninations is their belief in the word-for-word accuracy of the Bible and an almost rabid resistance to anything which is at odds with the teachings or commands of the scriptures. For this reason they reject currently held scientific theories regarding the nature and origins of the universe, including evolutionary theory. They have proposed an alternative known as *Scientific Creationism*.

As anyone who considers this issue will discover, there is nothing scientific about creationism. The adherents of this explanation of human origins have merely taken the familiar genesis account of creation and added the word scientific. As Harvard palaeontologist and biologist Stephen Jay Gould has pointed out, the Creationists have not added anything new to the reservoir of scientific knowledge.

They are attempting to replace established scientific principles with a thinly disguised, religious-mythological explanation by pointing out apparent weaknesses and fallacies in the scientific hypotheses, most notably, Darwin's concepts of evolution and natural selection. In this they have not been completely unsuccessful.

They reason that since there are only two mutually exclusive hypotheses regarding the origins of

mankind, evolution and scientific creationism, they need only disprove the evolutionary hypothesis in order to establish the biblical account as the *real* story. For this reason they never actually cite any evidence for their own case, but rather concentrate their attack on the concept of evolution.

This would not be so worrying if they were only shouting from the pulpit and proselytizing on their radio and television shows. In fact the fundamentalists have become a very political and high profile group. Very closely tied to the Republicans in the United States, the movement claims to have registered over 8 million voters prior to the last election. It is no secret that Ron Reagan is very sympathetic to their cause and shares many of their values.

This has led to the appointment of similarly minded people to important positions in both the government and the supreme court. These include William Bennett as secretary of education, Robert Billings as assistant to the secretary of education and C. Everett Koop as surgeon general. The fundamentalists now have significant input and influence at high levels of government and have been instrumental in attempts to repeal old laws to which they are opposed and to pass new legislation that reflects their values.

The most famous case of the clash between the scientific community and creationists is the Scopes Trial of 1925. A Tennessee school teacher was convicted of teaching evolutionary theory to his pupils. This was in direct contravention of the Butler act of the same year which made it illegal to teach any theory which denies the biblical account of creation or suggests that man evolved from a lower animal.

The conviction was eventually overturned on a technicality, and while the fundamentalists received a lot of bad press at the time, they seem to have viewed it as a victory and have not looked back since.

The Butler Act was repealed in 1967 but others have appeared in numerous states. In what has been called *Scopes II*, the American Civil Liberties Union took the Arkansas

board of education to court over the proposed "Balanced Treatment for Creation-Science and Evolution-Science Act" in December 1981 because they felt it threatened various provisions of the first amendment, principally the guarantee of church and state. The bill was thrown out by Judge William Overton because it required teachers to teach religion in the classroom.

Similar 'balanced treatment' bills have appeared in Connecticut, Mississippi, Louisiana and West Virginia and are being contested on the same grounds.

Though the fundamentalists may not be having much success in the courts, they are gaining ground in other ways. In 1984 the Texas school board issued proclamation 60 which outlines the content requirements for science textbooks beginning with the 1985 school year. The requirements do not include discussion of Darwin or evolutionary theory.

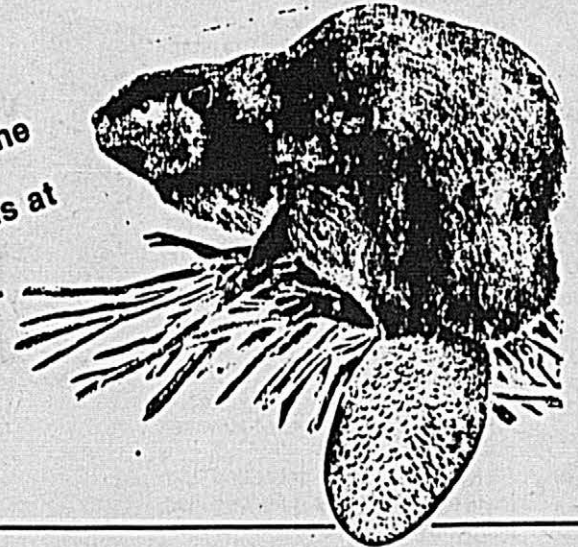
These topics may be discussed, but in the event that they are, other state laws require that they be preceded by qualifying statements to the effect that evolution is only one of the many possible explana-

science, the theme of all biology?"

It is impossible to imagine that fundamentalists outnumber all the parents who would like their children to be taught evolution in their biology classes or that Americans are going to stand by and allow this flagrant attempt by fundamentalists to have their religious dogma, excluding all others, passed off as science.

The impetus of the fundamentalists exists in that they are fired up enough to go out and force themselves and their beliefs on the rest of the population. They have a

What sets fundamentalists apart from other christian demoninations is their belief in the word-for-word accuracy of the Bible and an almost rabid resistance to anything which is at odds with the teachings or commands of the scriptures.



Fundamentalists have made recent attempts to have prayers and bible readings reinstated in classrooms. In fact, the supreme court has had to make several judgements on this issue. In 1984, the senate vetoed a proposed prayer or moment of silence each day.

In each case the courts have ruled against the lobby on the basis that prayer in the classroom would be in contravention of the first amendment guarantee of separation of church and state. Reagan has expressed his disappointment over these decisions and, along with Falwell, vows to continue the fight.

tions of mankind's origins and that these hypotheses are not factually verifiable, that is, on the same level of the creation story.

What is significant about this incident is that the Texas school board buys all the textbooks for its schools en masse and as a result, accounts for over 10% of the market. Many publishers, being inherently conservative and worried about future sales have reacted by steadily reducing the treatment of evolution in their texts in recent years.

A biology textbook published by Silver Burdett has reduced its coverage of evolution from 22 000 words in 1968 to only 4 400 in 1981. In a more extreme example, Laidlaw Brothers, a division of Doubleday, published a text in 1981 which not only omitted discussion of evolution, but failed to mention the word at all.

In his book, *Hen's Teeth and Horse's Toes*, Stephen Jay Gould related how just the same phenomenon occurred following the Scopes Trial in 1925. In fact, as a high school student he was required to work from a text which gave evolution only passing mention at the end of the book.

Again, this is an example of a text which in earlier years had not only devoted a great deal of space to the subject but had also used the theory as its fundamental organizing principle. With a thoroughness that might have been commendable in any other situation, the publishers replaced the old cover, a portrait of Charles Darwin, with a much safer illustration—a beaver. Thus history is re-written.

It would be interesting to know how the authors of these textbooks manage to sleep at night. Apparently they are unaware of the tremendous responsibility they have towards the students who use their books every day. In the words of Gould, "why are millions of students being deprived of their chance to study one of the most exciting and influential ideas in

world to save, vice and evil to eliminate, and they are not above using cunning and devious methods to achieve their ends. What will it take to get the rest of us to realise what is going on?"

In the 1950's, science fiction writer Robert Heinlein wrote what is probably one of his best and most frightening short stories, entitled "If this goes on...". In this chilling and prophetic story he paints a very grim and terrifying picture of a United States of the future. A country dominated by a very oppressive theocracy, led by a character known as the prophet incarnate.

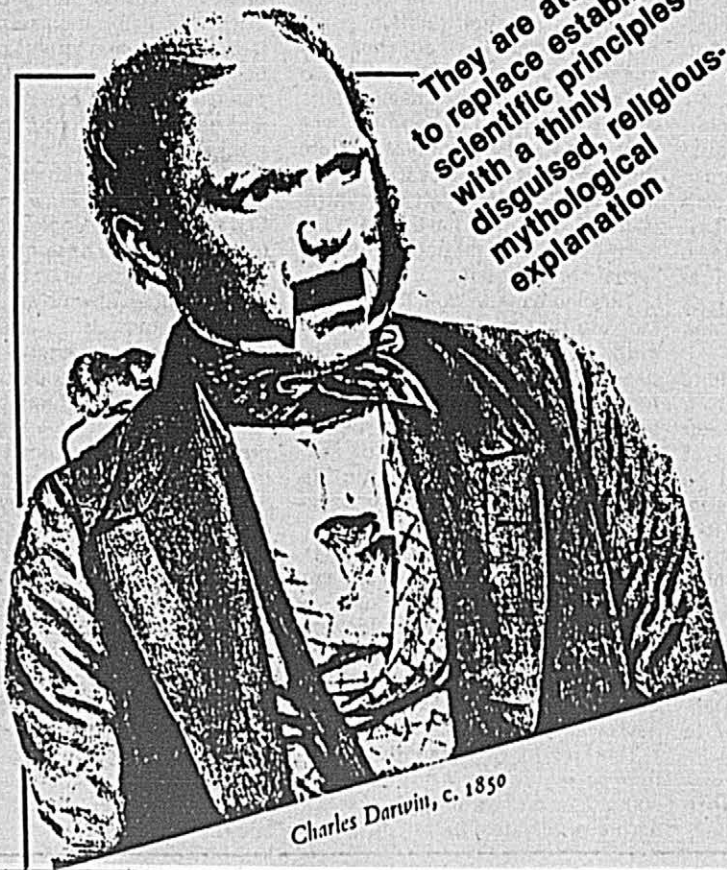
There is complete censorship of the media, an elaborate propaganda machine and effectively no contact with the rest of the world, which the public has been successfully convinced is populated by cannibalistic barbarians. In short, widespread brainwashing.

What is so disturbing is that most of the people portrayed accept their lives, as miserable and unrewarding as they are. They are all aware that their country has not always been as it is and have a dim recollection of a past that existed before the prophet came. They failed to see the change coming and felt helpless to fight it once they did. Sound familiar?

The religion in question is not so far removed in many ways from the fundamentalists. It is a fire and brimstone theology, an ideology with its very roots immersed in fear. Fear of the unknown, fear of a cruel and terrible God, fear of the power and the beauty of intelligence and imagination, fear of humankind itself. The individual has disappeared, sacrificed to some greater, mysterious purpose. There is no beauty or compassion here, just a cold, heartless obsession.

It is easy to say that it could never happen, but it has happened before. People said that about the holocaust even while it was becoming a reality.

Take a look around. See what's going on and tell yourself it could not happen. It is happening, and // this goes on...



Charles Darwin, c. 1850

They are attempting to replace established scientific principles with a thinly disguised, religious-mythological explanation.

The atmosphere is electric, filled with tension, wonder, and disbelief as the audience gazes incredulously at the stage. One of their fellow students has been given the suggestion, under hypnosis, to experience a 'cataleptic' stiffening of the stomach muscles. The hypnotized student is stretched between two chairs while another student, twice his size, stands fully supported by his stomach. The stage hypnotist smiles confidently, as a sepulchral thunder of applause breaks the silence, and shouts that anything can be done with hypnosis.

Many of us have at one time seen a stage hypnotist perform. However, we still have a tendency to view such a scenario with outright skepticism. Hypnosis, although no longer considered mere trickery, is still often viewed as an obscure and startling phenomenon. What is hypnosis? Where does it come from? How can it be used?

Hypnosis can be described as a state in which the subject's suggestibility and mental powers are so heightened that certain feats, which normally would not occur through the conscious mind, can be accomplished. To grasp what 'suggestion' is, one must realize that an overwhelming proportion of one's experience in everyday life can be accounted for by it.

Suggestion reveals itself in many facets of social living, and works powerfully, often below the level of consciousness, on all of us to a certain extent. One simply has to take a closer look at the complex society in which we live. Rallies held in schools with speeches, songs, and chants become the means of suggestion; propaganda, as seen in advertising, business and politics, is a pervasive form of suggestion. Beliefs, whether they be religious or otherwise, are born of suggestion.

We are suggestible beings; an autosuggestion (from oneself) or heterosuggestion (from outside sources) works on the subconscious mind, and causes one to believe and act. In all religions, cults, and orders, including the armed forces, there is a prescribed ritual in which the repetition of words plays an essential part in the strengthening of a suggestion.

Hypnosis, according to many authorities on the subject, is the response to suggestion from oneself or another person under conditions of maximum receptiveness, utilizing the power of the subconscious mind. Hypnosis is not magic, nor does it arise from 'supernatural' sources. Rather, it is a force that comes from within oneself. The sincere hypnotist attempts to teach 'self-hypnosis' so that the individual can unlock these positive powers within him/her.

The use of hypnosis by the medical profession today is expanding. Besides being effective in the control of pain, some conditions such as nausea, skin problems, anxiety, and compulsions have been treated successfully through hypnotherapy. Other conditions that are linked to stress, such as high blood pressure, asthma, allergies, overeating, smoking, and even alcoholism seem to respond

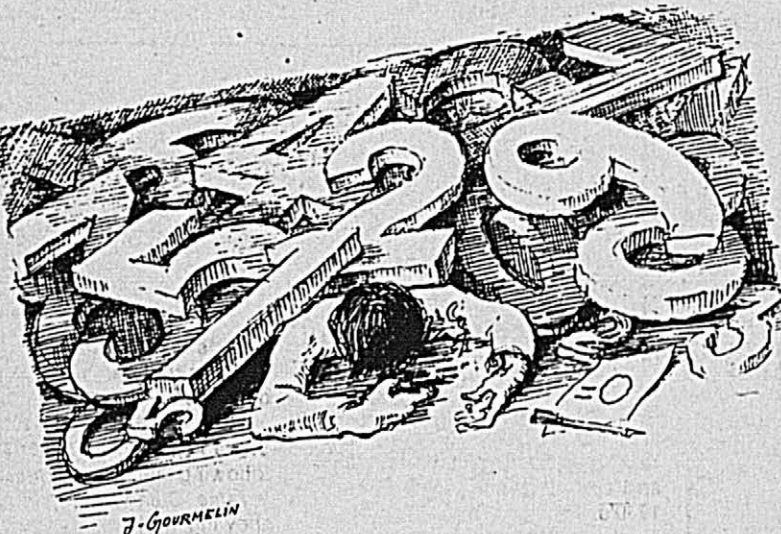
well to hypnosis.

Another interesting area that has been shown to be affected by hypnosis is memory. Hypnosis can cause partial or total loss of memory (amnesia) as well as hypernesia, in which the subject remembers the smallest details of an event as far back as infancy. What will be of particular interest to students is the fact that hypnosis can be used to improve one's memory, as well as improve concentration and reduce exam anxiety.

Miriam Praw, one of the founders of the Canadian Hypnotherapy Association, has been involved with hypnosis for over twenty years. She

Is director of a hypnosis centre here in Montreal, where an overwhelming percentage of the people seen are university students.

Praw feels that one of the reasons hypnosis is not widely used to its fullest potential is because of the many misconceptions about it that exist. For instance, it has often been implied that hypnosis is a 'surrendering' of will on the part of the subject, with all control placed in the hands of the hypnotist. Praw stated emphatically that an individual under hypnosis never loses



Dimensions of dementia

Mental illness has always been in the realm of that which is unknown and greatly feared. Well into the 18th century people labelled as insane were bound and locked away. By the end of the century Pinel was releasing the insane from their chains and the study of mental illness was beginning.

Last Tuesday, Dr. Leonard Wolfe, professor of neurology, neurosurgery and biochemistry at McGill gave a lecture on the 'Dimensions of Dementia.' Dementia denotes a progressive decline in mental function, early manifestations of which include recent memory loss and confusion.

Dr. Wolfe explained, to an audience of about 50, the seriousness of a disorder which affects both young and old and which appears in Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's chorea, severe alcoholism, Tay-sachs and Parkinson's disease. Certain of these neurological diseases which have dementia as their primary feature are selected for study.

In infants and young adults dementia can often be linked to a hereditary disorder. However, later in life symptoms such as loss of memory and confusion cannot be traced to something which was inherited. Looking at both has led to a "new concept of what really happens in old age given what we know about inherited disorders in the young," Dr. Wolfe explained.

For example, Tay-sachs disease is a rapidly progressive inherited disorder which leads to severe mental retardation, hypersensitivity to sound, blindness and death in infants. This disease has been extensively studied due to its prevalence in certain populations of Ashkenazy

Jews. The gene for Tay-sachs has now been found; prenatal diagnosis and community screening are reducing the occurrence of the disease.

It is thought that dementia is linked to an enzyme-based alteration of the cell's ability to dispose of material normally formed in the cell. The brain cells become filled with autofluorescent pigments that form plaques. These plaques are often seen in the aging brain yet are more numerous in the case of demented individuals.

Dr. Wolfe has done much research on long chain lipids, called dolichols, and their relation to aging. He found that dolichols accumulate in lysosomes of brain cells, the amount increasing linearly with age. Lysosomes are organelles which normally mediate the storage and removal of waste materials in cells. High concentrations of dolichols have also been found in the hippocampus of Alzheimer's patients.

This increase in dolichols would indicate that "the lysosomal membrane was not turning over," or passing through its normal stages for elimination from the cell. It has been shown that in many mental disorders this process of exocytosis, or "membrane traffic," is affected, so the cells become packed with lysosomes.

However, there are other pathological changes which are seen in cases of dementia such as Alzheimer's disease. They include loss of neurons, pathway degeneration in the hippocampus, and decrease in synthesis of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine.

The puzzle of dementia is far from solved, but Dr. Wolfe has shed some light on new ideas about the nature of this debilitating disorder.

control, and can accept or reject any of the suggestions given. In fact, people cannot be hypnotized if they have no wish to be.

Many people believe that one loses 'consciousness' and awareness while in a hypnotic state. As Praw pointed out, this too is *myth*, hypnosis is not the same as sleep, since the brain waves in each are different. Furthermore, the first stages of ordinary sleep are usually dissociated ones, whereas those of hypnosis are narrowed down to unusual concentration and attention.

Having worked with hundreds of students, especially in the areas of memory improvement and modification of destructive study habits, Miriam Praw explains that "through hypnosis, stress can be greatly reduced, and knowledge can be effectively stored in long-term memory. Retrieval and recall are also enhanced, and concentration greatly reinforced."

The overwhelming positive feedback this hypnotist has received from students has enabled her to 'guarantee' her program of hypnosis. One should be able to achieve higher grades than before or money will be refunded. Any guarantee of higher grades inevitably raises a few doubts and questions among students and professionals. These doubts dissolve upon speaking to students who have already learned self-hypnosis through Miriam Praw.

One first-year McGill student, who engaged in self-hypnosis to improve in a German course commented, "I find that my mind does not scatter everywhere at the same time anymore. I can focus well on one thing at a time." Another third-year Concordia science student mentioned that he was no longer tense during exams and stated, "I have much more confidence in myself than ever before."

Besides working extensively with students, Miriam Praw's Canadian Hypnotherapy Association also guarantees and works with people to enable them to stop smoking, lose weight, control pain, insomnia, dental anxiety, phobias and basically learning to change destructive behaviour patterns of living that prevent one from living the fullest life possible.

It is interesting to note that one of Praw's fundamental goals is to teach self-hypnosis to others so that they do not have to depend upon a hypnotist but can actually learn to help themselves. This technique, when truly mastered, has been said to enable one to perceive in a new and creative way and gain greater control of oneself from within.

"Self-hypnosis can be used for almost anything," Praw has stated. She encourages people who are interested, or who have questions or challenges, to come by the Medical Arts Building downtown in which she is located.

Scientifically, one must see hypnosis not as a mysterious unknown force of the supernatural, but rather as something in which we all have probably engaged at one point. For instance, an individual who has a 'phobia' has literally hypnotized himself, in a negative way. This person's body will react unfavorably in situations phobic to him/her because of a negatively conditioned response that has become habitual.

Through self-hypnosis, one can learn to create new conditioned reflexes instead of destructive patterns. Praw's Canadian Hypnotherapy Association is an attempt to guide people in this healthy direction.

Western nations seem to be slowly awakening to the critical problems faced by Third World nations to which they must respond. At the same time, western industries and commercial facilities have come to view the Third World as a land of opportunity. This creates many glaring contradictions. Nowhere is this better exemplified than in the Tobacco Industry.

While revulsion and dis-
towards the habit of smoking g.
amongst western populations,
tobacco kingpins are forced
search elsewhere for consum
The present target of the inte
tional tobacco industry has b
well laid out by industry big
Joseph Cullman III. In 1
Cullman noted that "our (the
dustry's) future is particularly br
in developing areas, where ince
and populations are growing."

In 1979, at the Fourth World Conference on Smoking and Health, International tobacco industry described its main objectives

- To stop the development towards a third world committed against tobacco.

- To get all or at least a substantial part of the Third World committed to the industry's cause.

- To mitigate the impact of World Health Organization pushing them into a more objective or neutral position.

The contradiction thus becomes evident. As the World Health Organization and other western groups work to improve health conditions in the developing nations, the tobacco industry seeks to invade those same developing areas, the largest single avoidable cause of health and premature death in industrialized world today—cigarettes.

In Brazil, 135 billion cigars were smoked in 1981. Tobacco established cigarette-related deaths as the leading cause of death in that country. The Brazilian government has concentrated intense efforts on the eradication of smallpox, yet cigarettes are becoming entrenched in the popular lifestyle. One killer is effectively replaced by another.

This tragedy becomes particularly acute in low-income populations where money needed for essential goods is lost on the cigarette addiction. It is ironic that successful promotional gimmicks and giveaways designed to enhance cigarette sales, penetrate the most remote areas in India, while government food distribution programs sometime fail in these same areas.

Advertising is the major weapon used by the tobacco industry to establish positive perceptions of smoking in Third World nations. Its advertisements are designed to influence the people of the Third World to aspire to western culture, starting with the right brand of cigarettes. An advertisement distributed by Gauloises, directed at the African market, clearly displays what the western, white man has to offer his African counterpart.

In India, the impact of the lifestyle advertisements is evident as the sales of traditional rolled cigarettes have slumped in favour of the sleek, white sticks.

There have been recent efforts to inform the people of the hazards of smoking, and to control underhanded tactics of the advertisers. In Malaysia, tobacco advertisements have been banned from both radio and television. Furthermore, printed advertisements must carry a warning sign.

In India, warnings are mandated on both cigarette packs and adv

tisements, although at present the warnings are only printed in English and Hindi. India has 16 official languages and hundreds of local versions so that for the majority of the population, these warnings have little meaning.

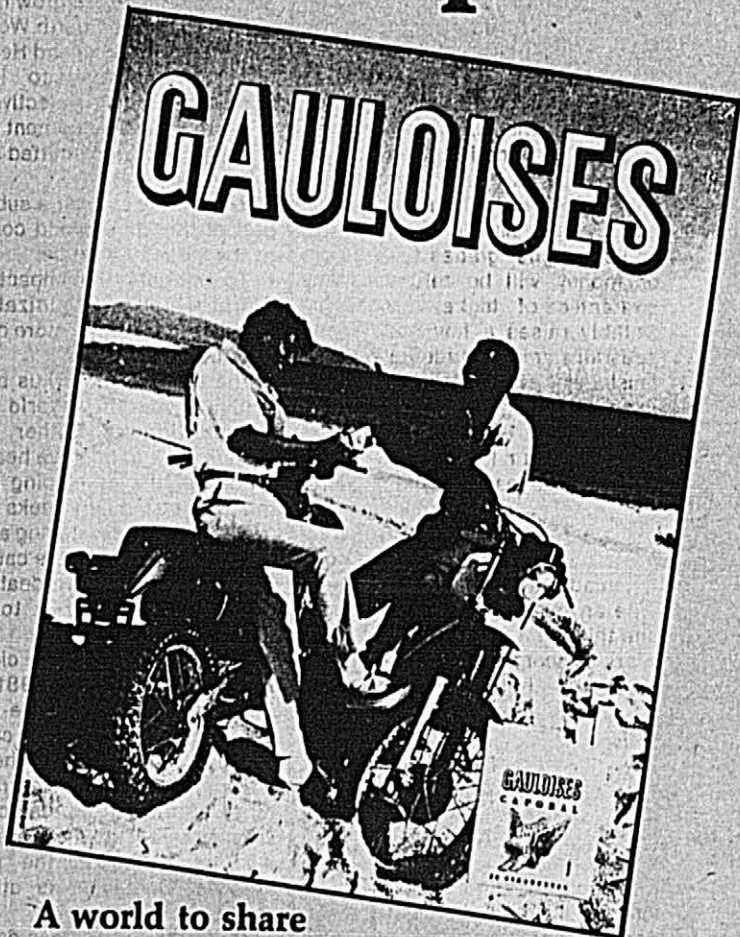
In other countries, such as Brazil, there has been no such attempt to educate the people. Tobacco companies are provided with a huge market free of any constraints. There are no health warnings on the cigarette packs or advertisements, cigarettes are rarely banned in public places, and are openly sold

throwaways."

Although tobacco farming employs many people, it may in fact contribute to employment problems by using labour intensively only at infrequent seasonal peaks.

These seasonal workers must perform such tasks as pesticide application, even though most cannot afford protective clothing. Aldrin, provided by the Shell Oil company, is one of the insecticides used in the tobacco growing regions of many developing areas although it has been banned in most western nations.

The smoke of profit



A world to share

to teenagers and children.

The Brazilian government is not taking action against the tobacco industry, despite the advice of the Brazilian Medical Association. The reasons for this are purely economic as 2.1% of Brazil's population is maintained by tobacco-related activities. 11.6% of the country's taxes are derived from cigarette sales.

Thus, in the depth of an economic crisis, Brazil feels dependant on the tobacco industry. The industry plays on this dependence and attempts to link cigarette sales to social development. Furthermore, the industry exploits the economy of the tobacco farmer in order to justify their business and to pressure the government not to take action against smoking.

A tobacco-based economy is unsound and may in fact be deleterious in the long run. When the cost of importing food crops displaced by tobacco growing and the costs of treating cigarette-induced diseases is weighed against the income from tobacco, the government may no longer be in the profit zone.

In Malaysia, 65% of the tobacco required for cigarette production is locally grown. However, it is questionable as to whether or not the farmers are benefitting. One 72 year old farmer, who has been growing the leaf for over 50 years in India, comments that "tobacco farmers, like cigarette butts, are

Dr. Femi-Pearse of Nigeria notes that in the face of economic improvement claimed by the tobacco industry, "the subservient role of women, particularly in the farming villages of the Third World, has remained unchanged."

In many countries there are alternative crops that are as profitable as tobacco and serve a more significant long term role. In Korea, it is red peppers, in Thailand, peanuts and mung beans, in Syria, vegetables, in Brazil, Soya beans and in Costa Rica, Sorghum and rice.

Environmentally, tobacco is not a good crop. Tobacco curing, the process of making it fit for cigarettes, requires enormous amounts of wood. In countries such as Kenya this has accounted for significant deforestation so that much of the land has lost its protection. This creates an unstable situation where food production may be threatened and the land becomes vulnerable to severe soil erosion. This deforestation also denies rural communities a supply of essential cooking fuel.

No longer should farmers and governments be at the mercy of the tobacco industry, all in pursuit of the wonderful cigarette — the most lethal instrument in the industrialized world today devised for peacetime use. With the destruction of human health and natural environments, the benefits of the tobacco industry become as pleasant as rancid cigarette smoke.

by Mark Ramsay Attisha

Unless you have been living in a cave for the past twenty years, you will have figured out that computers are the cat's pajamas these days. They are fast, they are 'smart', and they are everywhere.

Making computers 'smarter' is the aim of a rapidly growing field of computer research known as Artificial Intelligence (AI). Scientists in this field want to come up with methods, or algorithms which, when written into a computer's program, will allow it to solve problems, make decisions, and learn like a human being.

Historically, one of the major thrusts in AI research has been theorem proving. Writing a program that can prove any theorem (written in predicate calculus) is a problem that has baffled mathematicians and computer scientists since the 1930's. Though many have tried, no single program proves all theorems. But as expected, some are better than others.

A group of McGill students have decided to find out just whose program is the best. Under the sponsorship of Professor Monty Newborn of the School of Computer Science, they are organizing the first-ever World Championship for Theorem Proving Programs to be held here at McGill during May 9-11. The winners of the competition will receive the grand prize of \$1000 and the first three finishers will receive trophies. Participants will also be asked to present a lecture on the design of their programs.

"Over 320 universities world-wide have been invited to enter," says Ken Kopke, Organizing Committee chairperson, "as well as many corporations and research groups."

"Participants will have ten minutes in which to produce a proof of each given theorem. The program that produces the most number of proofs wins," said Kopke.

"The theorems we will use will usually be ones that the participants themselves will submit — theorems that their programs can solve and hopefully everyone else's programs cannot. We also have a random theorem generator, a program whose sole function is to crank out statements in predicate calculus, if we need more theorems."

"We've sent out most of our information on the competition already and are presently waiting for responses. So far, we have received very enthusiastic replies from researchers at such facilities as the Argon National Laboratory in Chicago, where they are doing a considerable amount of work in automated reasoning. Many of these people have viable programs up and running already," Kopke said.

"Because, as far as we know, this is the first event of its kind held anywhere in the world, we are hoping that the competition will serve as a forum for exchange of ideas, as well as an opportunity for various institutions to show off their programming expertise."

Ironically, all the prospective participants in the championship know that it is, in fact, impossible to come up with the perfect algorithm, one which will prove all theorems.

Artificial intellects to meet at McGill

theorem-proving program, you would never get an answer. Indeed, the program would run forever unless someone pulled its plug.

An observer might ask, "Why bother to write such a program if the perfect program can never be written?"

The reason is that the pool of provable theorems is so vast, one wants a program that can prove the greatest number of them.

Sound wildly esoteric? It probably is. But the organizing committee of the First World Championship of Theorem-Proving Programs is expecting entrants from all over the world to come to McGill this May to strut their stuff.

This is simply because there are theories that can never be proven or disproven.

As a simple example of an unprovable theorem, consider the following sentence: *This sentence is false.* Clearly, there is no way of showing that this sentence is true or false, since it will be false if proven true and true if proven false.

If you were to translate this sentence into predicate calculus and feed it to any competitive



The art of science

by Jason Creaghan

The distinction between the artist and the scientist becomes blurred with people like Galileo and Da Vinci. Their ability to summarize their ideas in diagrams and sketches greatly facilitated the transmission and acceptance of revolutionary

new concepts.

This was the theme of the Monday night lecture by Harvard History of Philosophy of Science professor I. Bernard Cohen. It was the first in a series of *History of Ideas* seminars and lectures to be held at McGill over the next few months.

by Don Mathewson

'Twas morning, and the sleepy post-docs
Did with coffee pollute their brains
All quiet were the detectors,
And the beam time, little remained.

Beware the Higgs, my son,
The field so necessary, yet the boson unfound
Beware the ghost-like Z^0 , and shun
The heavy T-quark

And so he took his chamber in hand,
Long time the boson he vainly sought
So rested he in the control room...
As the computer hummed, he thought

And as he sat with head in hands,
Particle handbook and Swiss army knife at the ready
Several blips appeared on the screen
Not one Higgs surely, but twenty!

The logic was triggered, the data saved
The analysis program it spat out a stack
He left the room with a page
And galloped happily back.

And hast thou found the Higgs, my son!
It's a Nobel for me, for sure today!
Now off to the lab with you,
And start looking for proton decay

'Twas morning, and the sleepy post-docs
Did with coffee pollute their brains
All quiet were the detectors,
And the beam time, little remained.

With apologies to Lewis Carroll

notes from below

Judicial committee rejects opt-out

Judicial Committee Ruling on Student Initiated Referenda

The Judicial Committee of the Daily Publications Society has ruled in the *McGill Daily's* favour over two student-initiated referendum (SIR) questions proposed by Post Graduate Students' Society (PGSS) Secretary Steven Fraser last October.

The two proposed referendum questions will not go to ballot as they have been deemed unconstitutional. The first question called for a system in which students could "opt-out" of paying their \$5.70 a year fee to the *Daily*; the other was a series of amendments to the *Daily* constitution.

The Committee, composed of three impartial Senior Law students, found the two questions were "unconstitutional by reason of the fact that they attempt to amend indirectly the constitution in a way which could not be done directly."

"The proposed Referendum Procedure question is uninterpretable and unfair. The unamended Opt-Out question is unfair and inappropriate because the preamble is biased," the Committee said in their preliminary report dated January 27, 1986.

When Fraser, the initiator of the SIR, presented the petition to the *Daily's* Chief Returning Officer on October 30, 1985, the Opt-Out proposed referendum question contained a preamble stating: "There is no protection for minority groups within the DPS. It is possible for individual groups to have their rights affected by actions of the Society. The proposed amendment is a solution to this problem."

The CRO ruled the preamble to the question unfair and misleading — it was ambiguous enough that it might mean the *Daily* is racist and therefore students shouldn't pay for the newspaper. However, the CRO amended it so the main question of opt-out could go to ballot in March.

The DPS Board of Directors then launched a complaint to the Judicial Committee against the CRO. The Board felt it was not in the powers of the CRO to amend referendum questions that had already been endorsed by about 700 students in the form of a petition, as the substance and meaning of the question was altered by the amendment.

The Judicial Committee ruled that the CRO did in fact only have the power to amend clerical errors and errors in form (syntax, grammar, technical and procedural matters), "but shall not have the power to

amend matters of substance and/or content of the question at this point." The CRO, said the Committee, can provide an acceptable amended version of the question to the Initiators which they may re-submit before the members for signatures.

"Therefore the Committee finds that the CRO did not have the power to amend the preamble of the Opt-Out question, as this changes the meaning and content of the question," states the preliminary report.

The PGSS, as initiators of the referendum questions, launched a complaint against the DPS Selection Committee for electing a CRO on October 30, 1985. Fraser claimed the election of the CRO so late in first semester prejudiced the treatment of the petition. He argued the questions would have gone to ballot in November had it not been for the fact that a CRO was chosen in late October.

However, the Judicial Committee ruled that if the questions for referendum were found valid and the Initiator had suffered prejudice due to the fault of the Selection Committee or the CRO, the delays to hold a referendum could be extended.

"In this case, the Committee finds that the complainant has not shown evidence to persuade the Committee that he has suffered prejudice due to any action or omission by the Selection Committee or the CRO."

A Clarification

Monday's comment, *Coalition manipulates speech at Concordia* by Sally Kramer, contained the phrase "powerful international coalition. While no complaint has been made, we wish to clarify its intent."

It was *not*, in any way, an endorsement of any form of 'international Jewish conspiracy' theory. Both the staff of the *Daily* and the author of the article reject such theories as being without substance, and dangerous. We apologize if any such interpretation occurred.

The substance of Kramer's allegations is currently under investigation by the *Daily*. Given the gravity of the allegations, and their source — the co-ordinator of the International Peace Seminar — we felt it important that they be brought forward as soon as possible.

Monday's opening lecture, *Towards a Nuclear Free World*, was cancelled due to the poor weather. It has been rescheduled for Monday, February 3 in room 26 of the Leacock Building.

Brendan Weston

Melinda Wittstock

INTER-RESIDENCE COUNCIL BY-ELECTIONS

The following individuals have been elected by acclamation for the positions indicated:

President:
Richard Tattersall

Vice-President (Finance):
Laurie Smith

Secretary:
Monica Kipiniak

Residence Representative to the McGill Students' Council:
Ian Ross Brodie

The position of Vice-President (Internal) is left vacant as no nominations were received.

Andrew Dinsmore
Chief Returning Officer
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TEL: 392-8983



ANGRY SENATORS ATTACK
MAKERS OF BISHOP FILM

DOCU-DRAMA: FACT AND FICTION

National Film Board of Canada film directors including Donald Brittain (Canada's Sweetheart: The Saga of Hal C. Banks) and Paul Cowan (The Kid Who Couldn't Miss) will explore with journalists and the public controversial issues surrounding docu-drama filmmaking such as: objectivity · freedom of the press · historical accuracy · journalistic ethics.

Saturday, February 1st

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
McGill University, Frank Dawson
Adams Auditorium
3450 University Street

Call 392-5014 to reserve your seat.
Free admission

Organized jointly by McGill University's
Department of English and the National
Film Board of Canada.

Censoring porn not the answer: Callwood

by Karen Liquornik

June Callwood, a well-known Canadian journalist, says that although pornography is degrading and harmful to women, censorship is no solution.

Callwood was speaking at McGill Monday as part of the 'anti-imagination' lecture series sponsored by the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS).

Addressing a receptive crowd of 40, Callwood introduced herself as a feminist. But, she said she was part of the minority within the women's movement which does not condone the censorship of pornography. She acknowledged that a schism exists within the feminist movement over the issue of pornography.

"My stance on pornography has often been painful... I've been repeatedly accused of being anti-women," explained Callwood.

Callwood's devotion to the feminist movement is extensive, and includes the establishment of a home for battered women. In her experience with battered women she has found that "men are violent because of their upbringing, not because of pornography."

Callwood finds the list of banned and censored material in Canada shocking. "In Manitoba there are currently 157 books under attack... E.T. is one of them."

The creativity of many artists is limited by fear of censorship. Says Callwood, "If adults in a book act

sexually, the book won't be on the high school reading list." As the high school market is a key target, many writers are forced to stifle their own creativity.

Callwood refers to censorship as a form of oppression, calling the situation, "grotesque, and a horror

in our supposedly open society."

Citing the actions of Canadian Customs officials, Callwood emphasized the dangers of censorship. "Customs Officials have taken to seizing all literature heading to gay stores."

"One Toronto bookstore was forced out of business because its

entire Christmas shipment was seized."

She expressed incredulity that any customs official can decide what is obscene.

Callwood ended her speech by saying feminists should focus their efforts on improving women's

economic situation rather than censoring pornography. Pornography, she believes, is merely a symptom of women's position in society, not the cause.

"A society that resorts to censorship is in trouble... sitting on bad ideas leads to sitting on good ideas," Callwood concluded.

Prank leaves five chickens dead

EDMONTON (CUP) — Two University of Alberta agriculture students will appear in provincial court Feb. 20 in connection with the death of five chickens during the university's Engineering Week.

Reginald Shandro and Earl Greenhough were among five students who, acting independently of their faculty club, tossed a bag of chicken feathers and then five live chickens off a second floor balcony in the student union building during a noon Engineering Week rally.

"They thought (the chickens) would flutter down," said director of campus security Doug Langevin, "but they fell like rocks."

The chickens were "half-dead," said Engineering Students' Society executive Dale Hildebrand. "Two of them couldn't even lift their beaks off the ground."

The engineering students running the event disposed of the chickens by wringing their necks

and tossing them into a dumpster, Hildebrand said.

Greenhough and Shandro are charged under Section 402 of the Criminal Code with willfully causing

unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal or bird. The maximum penalty is a \$500 fine or six months in jail.

"We didn't want to hurt anybody or the chickens," the two told *The Gateway*, U of A's student newspaper, last week. They said they organized the stunt "in order to maintain the on-going rivalry between the Aggies and Engineers."

They thought the chickens would land safely because chickens can

fly short distances.

The chickens were bought from a local farmer. "We told him it was engineering week and that we were going to use the chickens in a prank against them," the students said. "He said he didn't like engineers either."

boooooom

events

Today
McGill Film Society — presents *Repulsion* in the Union Ballroom at 20h00. Free and snacks will be sold.
The Alliance — All students working towards progressive goals are invited to discuss media and planning at 20h00 this Friday.
McGill Outing Club — offers all students Smuggler's Notch tickets at very reduced prices all week. Call 392-8953 or come to the office, Student Union, 411.
Department of English Students' Association — poetry reading by Elizabeth Spencer at 15h00 in the Arts Council Room.
McGill Alpine Ski Team — general meeting at 16h30 and council meeting at 17h00.
History Students Association — presents *Last Grave at Dimbaza*, a story of South Africa, on February 3 in Leacock 15 at 15h00.
Central America Group — general meeting at 16h30, everyone welcome, room 404, Union Building.
Irish Studies of McGill — presents Brian

John, Professor of English, McMaster University. John will give a talk on *The Healing Art of John Montague* at 20h00 in Arts Council Room.
Thursday
School of Social Work — film series, *Sharing the Experience* with Gavin in room 110, Wilson Hall from 13h-14h00.
Humanistic Studies Speakers Series — presents Patrick Lane, Governor General Award winner for poetry in 1978, reading from his poetry. 16h30 in Arts Council Room (160).

383 — LESSONS OFFERED
French Tutoring by experienced teacher—5 min from campus. Before 8 pm: 849-9708, try weekends too.
Folk, rock guitar workshop. Union building-10 weeks beginning January 30. Cost: \$72. 8 students per 90 minute session. All levels, your choice of music. Michael 769-5008, 684-5796.

classifieds

Ads may be placed through the Daily, Room B03, Student Union Building, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Deadline is 2:00 p.m. two weekdays prior to publication.
McGill students: \$2.50 per day; for 3 consecutive days, \$2.00 per day; more than 3 days, \$1.75 per day. McGill faculty and staff: \$3.50 per day. All others: \$4.00 per day. *Exact change only, please.*
 The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print a classified ad.

341 — APTS., ROOMS, HOUSING

To sublet. 2 1/2 \$325 per month. Clean, bright, no bugs, balcony. Prince Arthur. 15 minutes from campus.
 4 1/2 to share until July 1: 3660 Peel Street; contact Gail day 392-5387, eve 844-0022.

One room in a nice furnished quiet apartment (Westmount) to sublet from 1st May-31st July. (Loc. 2 minutes from metro Vendome.) Please call Sybille: 486-9793.

343 — MOVERS

Moving? All local moves done quickly and carefully by student with large closed truck. Fully equipped, reasonable rates. Call Stéphane 288-8005.

350 — JOBS

Camp Maromac a children's resident summer camp requires: counsellors, instructors for swimming, sailing, windsurfing, water-skiing, landsports, gymnastics, computers, archery-rifery. Waitresses, assistant cooks, nurse's aid. Excellent salary and working conditions. Call between 9 am and 5 pm 933-4836.

352 — HELP WANTED

Seek Brazilian-Portuguese teacher. Please leave message for Larry at 524-8968.

Part-time receptionist required for design office. Preferably bilingual. Nice atmosphere. Call: Gad Smaaman Industrial Designs. 931-8209.

CFRM Radio McGill—news department needs staff for newscasting and newsproductions. No experience necessary. Call 392-8936.

354 — TYPING SERVICES

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Graduates—Jostens is on campus for your graduation rings. See the display at the Bookstore regularly. Call the Representative Eyal at 495-2521 and get answers.

Ottawa-Winterlude '86 Party on the canal Feb. 14, 15, 16. Charter bus, hotel, breakfast (2) \$98.00. Peter 931-3946 or John 931-5032.

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361 — ARTICLES FOR SALE

Moving Sale: Furniture and household items including oak desk \$125, chair \$25, filing cabinet 4-drawer \$75, coffee table \$45 and more, 288-0518.

Skiat K2 712 Competition Slalom 195 cm with Look HP99 bindings /US size 11 1/2 Nordica 'tempest' bpts/Scott poles and ski bag. Must sell!! \$300 or best offer. 842-0573 after 6:00 pm.

Bargains! 5 ft. metal file cabinet, hide-a-bed and big chair (green velours). Must sell. 733-8783.

McGill jackets: White leather arms, red wool body, crest, "McGill" on the back. Some sizes in stock, otherwise, any size can be ordered. \$115. 286-0903.

Danby Compact Refrigerators with freezers on sale at Rossy's 3429 Parc Ave. (corner Sherbrooke St.) This location only.

Yamaha CP-30 Piano—\$600.00; Criterion Telescope, 6 inch f8, equatorial mount, drive, setting circles and eyepieces, \$650.00. Must sacrifice. Stéphane. 489-6311

370 — RIDES

Spring Break in Daytona Beach. Fun & Sun!! Feb. 15-23rd, six nights accommodation, roundtrip transportation, daily pool parties, \$239 Canadian, Hotel only \$109. Call anytime. Sean 845-2553.

372 — LOST & FOUND

Lost: Black "Ray-Ban" sunglasses in black case in Gert's Fri., Jan. 17. If found, please

call David; 598-9847. Reward!!

Lost: Keys on a Jack-knife key chain, with nylon cord. Jack-knife is red and has great sentimental value. Reward. If found call Spy at 937-8793.

Whoever found a Toshiba walkman KT-S3 in the McConnell's locker room on Thurs., Jan 16, I would appreciate having it back. André 672-4964.

Lost: one off-green wool turtle neck with rust wool darning in Gertrude's on Thurs. Jan 24. Please give it back, Call Denise 937-3063 after 6 p.m.

374 — PERSONAL

Latent sportswriters wanted to manifest your tendencies towards enlightening the sports starved readers of the McGill Daily. Come see Sports Editor, Earl Freud any afternoon at the Daily office (Union B-03). Leave name & phone number if Earl is preoccupied with a jock-strap.

Jaggerlips, Michael, Andrew, Martin, Big'n'Bad: Nay, tempt me not—I'll have no more of this—I've given myself up to the Lord Chancellor—Elaine.

Hi I'm Icelandic and I miss speaking my language. If you or anyone you know speak Icelandic, please call Anna at 486-9902.

Lots of people call Nightline. Why not you? 392-8234, open until 3 a.m.

Big'n'Bad—Last night in the sauna was awesome, but since Mom's in town, let's meet at Savoy's Iolantha, she'll never suspect a thing!—Michael.

Palomita, see you on Friday at Friday's between six and seven. Wear something yellow. Love, Palomero.

Mr. Rose. For someone who's a slave to his own rhythm, you're O.K. Thank goodness for you weekly diversion aboard the Enterprise. Yours truly.

Bored with studying? Chat with a Nightliner. Dial 392-8234. We're awake until 3 a.m.

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Gay and Lesbian Special Issue meeting today at 17h00 (that's 5 pm). All gay men and lesbians interested in working on the issue are encouraged to attend. Room to be announced — check board outside the *Daily* office, room B-03, Union Building anytime after noon.



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STUDENTS' SOCIETY ELECTIONS

TO BE HELD MARCH 10, 11, 12 1986



NOMINATIONS ARE HEARBY CALLED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

STUDENTS' SOCIETY EXECUTIVE
PRESIDENT
 VICE-PRESIDENT, Internal Affairs
 VICE-PRESIDENT, External Affairs

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
 ONE UNDERGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE
 (Incl. Law, Medicine and Dentistry)

SENATE
 ARTS (Incl. Social Work) 2 representatives
 DENTISTRY 1 representative
 EDUCATION 1 representative
 ENGINEERING (Incl. Architecture) 1 representative
 LAW 1 representative

MANAGEMENT 1 representative
MEDECINE (Incl. Nursing and P&OT) 1 representative
MUSIC 1 representative
RELIGIOUS STUDIES 1 representative
SCIENCE 2 representatives

DEADLINE: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7, 1986 AT 16:30 HRS

CANDIDATES QUALIFICATIONS AND NOMINATING PROCEDURES

EXECUTIVE

President—must be a member of the McGill Students' Society in good standing with the University except:
 i) part-time students taking less than three courses
 ii) students registered in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research who are non-resident students or full members of the teaching staff.
 Nominations must be signed by at least 100 members of the McGill Students' Society together with their year and faculty.
 Vice-Presidents, Internal & External—same qualifications as for President.
 Nominations must be signed by at least 75 members of the McGill Students' Society along with their year and faculty.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Candidates must be members of the McGill Students' Society and must be registered at McGill University as full-time students in good standing following the normal load of courses per year. Nominations must be signed by at least 75 members of the McGill Students' Society along with their year and faculty.

SENATE

- Candidates must be members of the McGill Students' Society and:
1. be students in good standing who are registered full-time for a degree or diploma and have satisfied conditions for promotion in their previous year of studies.
 - or
 2. be students in good standing who have satisfied conditions for promotion in the previous year of studies and who are registered in a degree or diploma program, but who are permitted by Faculty to undertake a limited program.
 - or
 3. be students in good standing who are registered full-time or in a limited program for a degree or diploma, and who are repeating a year for reasons other than academic failure.

Nominations must be signed by at least 50 members of Students' Society who are in the same faculty as the prospective candidate together with their year and faculty, or by 25% of the student enrolment in the faculty together with their year and faculty, whichever is the lesser of the two.

* CANDIDATES MAY RUN FOR ONE POSITION IN EACH OF THREE CATEGORIES PROVIDED SEPARATE NOMINATION PAPERS HAVE BEEN HANDED IN FOR EACH POSITON. A PEN SKETCH OF 100 WORDS OR LESS AND A PHOTO OF THE NOMINEE MUST BE HANDED IN WITH THE NOMINATION.

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY GENERAL OFFICE IN THE STUDENTS' UNION NO LATER THAN:
16h30 FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY
 c/o **LESLIE COPELAND, Secretary**
 N.B. Students in Continuing Education are NOT members of the Students' Society
 OFFICIAL NOMINATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY GENERAL OFFICE, ROOM 105, 3480 McTAVISH STREET
 ALL NOMINATION FORMS MUST HAVE THE CANDIDATES SIGNATURE TOGETHER WITH HIS/HER YEAR AND FACUTLY, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER.

MARK PROUDMAN
 Chief Returning Officer

MONEY

WORK AS A DISTRICT RETURNING OFFICER DURING STUDENTS' SOCIETY ELECTIONS, MARCH 10-12.

If interested and eligible to work in Canada, fill in an application form at Students' Society General Office, by February 28, 1986